

Introduction to Food Technology

Code: 101017
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Microbiology	OP	4

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

There are no official prerequisites, but it is essential that the student review the knowledge of Physics, Chemistry, Microbiology and Biochemistry.

Objectives and Contextualisation

What we eat every day and how we do it, our health depends on it, and also our economy, since the agri-food sector is one of the ones that moves the most money in our country. Industries must ensure healthy and safe foods. The general objective of this subject is to introduce students to the basic knowledge that allows them to propose and/or recognize specific food preparation processes to guarantee food safety that responds to the needs and demands of society. This general objective requires achieving some specific ones:

- Recognize the components and ingredients of food, and their functions and properties
- Identify specific food quality indicators
- Relate components, properties and quality indicators
- Identify the mechanisms of food deterioration

- Assess the possibility and probability of deterioration of a food due to a specific cause
- Describe the main processes of food transformation and/or conservation, the consequences they have on food compounds and raw materials and the control parameters.
- Identify the main characteristics of food industries derived from raw materials of animal and plant origin.

Learning Outcomes

1. CM15 (Competence) Evaluate the role of microorganisms in processes of economic interest as producers of key compounds in the development of our societies and in the improvement of the quality of life.
2. KM23 (Knowledge) Identify the operations and production processes involving microorganisms or their components.
3. SM24 (Skill) Analyse industrial operations and processes involving microorganisms or their components in order to contribute to their improvement and guarantee their success.

Content

UNIT 1. Food properties and modifications

Theory:

Topic 1. The water of food. Structure and properties. State of water for food. Water activity Sorption isotherms (2 hr)

Topic 2.- Biotic modifications. Food as an ecosystem. Factors that affect the growth and survival of microorganisms in food. The theory of obstacles. (2 hr)

Topic 3. Food components and ingredients: General characteristics and functional properties of the main components of foods: carbohydrates, proteins and lipids. Additives. (3 h)

Topic 4.- Non-biotic modifications: chemical and enzymatic reactions. Non-enzymatic browning reactions. Lipolysis and auto-oxidation. Pigment degradation reactions. Enzymatic oxidation of lipids, proteins and carbohydrates. Reactions of enzymatic browning. (3 h)

Laboratory:

PL1- General knowledge of the pilot plant (1h); Enzymatic browning (laboratory, 2h)

PL2-Food Stability (2 h)

Seminar:

S1- Presentation and evaluation of the self-learning work (2 h)

UNIT 2. Fundamentals of food industries

Theory:

Topic 5. Processing in food technology. General concepts. Traceability in food production. (1 h).

Topic 6. Effects of low temperatures on food components and on microorganisms. Changes in cell structure by frozen. Conservation factors. (2 h)

Topic 7. Packaging in modified atmospheres. Gas mixtures used in function of food. Preservative effectiveness and changes observed in food components. (2 h)

Topic 8. Use of high temperatures in food preservation. Pasteurization and sterilization. Equipments and processes used at industry. Effects on the microorganisms: TDT curves, DT, z and F0 coefficients. (4 h)

Topic 9. Elimination of water. Drying of foods and evaporation of liquid foods. Use of tangential filtration systems. (2 h)

Seminars:

S2- Bio-preservation(2h)

S3- Heat treatments:TDTcurves (2h), self-learning activity of the associated unit 2

UNIT 3. Fundamentals of foods of animal and vegetable origin

Theory:

Topic 10.- Dairy Technology . Composition and structure of milk. Microbiology of milk. Preservation treatments. Concentrated milk and milk powder. Cream and butter. Coagulation Other products. (3 h)

Topic 11.- Technology of meat and derivatives. Normal and abnormal post-mortem metabolism in meat channels. Microbiology. Cooling and freezing. Systems of classification and prediction of quality. (2 h)

Topic 12.- Technology of fishery products. Composition and post-mortem changes. Conservation methods. Refrigeration and Freezing. Preserves and Semiconserves. (4 h)

Seminars:

S4- Description of meat derivatives (2 h)

S5- Fermented cereals and legumes (2 h)

Laboratory:

PL3- Elaboration of dairy products (2 hours), self-learning activity of Associated Unit 3

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
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Type: Directed			
Laboratory practices	8	0.32	CM15, SM24, CM15
Lectures	32	1.28	CM15, KM23, SM24, CM15
Seminars	10	0.4	CM15, KM23, SM24, CM15
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Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous study and bibliographic consultation	60	2.4	CM15, KM23, SM24, CM15
Case resolution and presentation, autoevaluation exercises	36	1.44	CM15, KM23, SM24, CM15
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The methodology used in this course combines the following activities:

- Lectures where the student acquires the basic concepts of the subject.
- Work seminar to complete and deepen the concepts exposed in the master classes, analyzing information and solving questions.
- Seminars on the presentation and evaluation of the work of self-learning.

- Laboratory practices: complete and reinforce the knowledge acquired in the lectures. They allow the acquisition of work skills in the laboratory and the experimental understanding of concepts. At the beginning of the course, the student will have a guide available with all the practices to be performed at laboratory. The student must make a comprehensive reading of the guide. Each practice will include: objective / s, foundation, methodology and a section for the results that are obtained, as well as a file to prepare the report of each session. The student will have to prepare the report during the practice.

In the first session, the student must submit the proof of passing the Basic Safety test signed with the commitment of knowledge and compliance with the work and safety regulations in the practice laboratory.

The practical sessions are of compulsory. The absence of a session can be justified.

- Self-learning work of the student:

- Individual, for the presentation and preparation of cases, and for the study and preparation of the exam.
- In group of 4 people, for the preparation and presentation of cases. In some cases, the work involves the search and selection of information in various sources and the answer to the questions raised in the case, and its presentation and discussion in front of the professors and other class groups. In others, students must respond to the Virtual Campus.

The teaching material used in the course will be available on the Virtual Campus. The student will find, before each session, the presentations in pdf format that teachers will use in class, to use it as a support when taking notes. They will also include the necessary scripts for the practices, which the student will have to print on the first day of the course.

In the Virtual Campus will also be left self-assessment material of the units of the subject, which the student can use to reinforce their knowledge.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Presentation and discussion of self-learning work	35%	1	0.04	KM23, SM24
Written exams	65%	3	0.12	CM15, KM23, SM24

Maximum score that can be obtained is 100 points. The course will be passed with a minimum overall score of 50. The assessment will be individual and will be carried out continuously during the different training activities that have been programmed.

The final grade of the subject will be as follow:

Unit 1. Exam: 65%; Self-study: 35%

33% of the final grade of the subject. Minimum for average in the global mark: 4/10

Unit 2. Exam: 65%; Self-study: 35%.

34% of the final grade of the subject. Minimum for average in the global mark: 4/10

Unit 3. Exam: 65%; Self-study: 35%

33% of the final grade of the subject. Minimum to average: 4/10

Students will have to do an individual self-study job (in unit 2) or in groups of 4 people (units 1 and 3). The work of unit 1 will be presented in public presentation, together with the rest of the groups, in a session scheduled in class hours. The works of units 2 and 3 will be sent to the professors via Virtual Campus. The minimum score to average on the unit's mark is 5/10.

When finalizing the formative activities of each unit and the date specified in the general programming, the student will perform a written exam (test type with answers of multiple choice combined with questions of development in some of the units) on the knowledge acquired during the classes, the practices and the self-learning. The minimum score to average on the unit's mark is 4/10

- The student who has not completed the practices cannot attend the examinations. The content of practices may be evaluated in the exams.
- To be eligible for the retake process, the student should have been previously evaluated in a set of activities equaling at least two thirds of the final score of the course or module. Thus, the student will be graded as "Not Evaluable" if the weighting of all conducted evaluation activities is less than 67% of the final score.

The single evaluation will consist of a single synthesis test in which the contents of the entire program of theory of the course will be evaluated. The grade obtained in this synthesis test will represent 65% of the final grade of the course. This test will be taken on the same day and time as the partial exam of unit 3. The evaluation of the practical activities and PAUL will follow the same process as the continuous evaluation and attendance is compulsory. The grade obtained will represent 35% of the final grade of the course.

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General: Electronic books at the library

<http://www.knovel.com/web/portal/browse/subject/60/filter/0/>

Podeu fer una cerca per paraules clau en aquesta web. Alguns que us poden ser útils (però n'hi ha molts d'altres):

Chemical Deterioration and Physical Instability of Food and Beverages

Chilled Foods

Encyclopedia of Food Microbiology

Essentials of Food Sanitation

Food Additives Data Book

Food Spoilage Microorganisms

Oxidation in Foods and Beverages and Antioxidant Applications, Volume 1 - Understanding Mechanisms of Oxidation and Antioxidant Activity

Oxidation in Foods and Beverages and Antioxidant Applications, Volume 2 - Management in different Industry Sectors

Principles of Food Chemistry

Stability and Shelf-Life of Food

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/books/sub/foodsci>

<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-350235.html>

<http://pubs.rsc.org/en/ebooks#!key=subject&value=food>

Software

No especific software is required

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	741	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	afternoon
(SEM) Seminars	741	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	74	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed